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Letter dated 23 July 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

At a time when you are holding consultations in order to achieve progress towards the peaceful settlement of the question of Western Sahara, the Kingdom of Morocco wishes to object to the violent and inappropriate remarks made against Morocco by Algeria in the letter addressed to you by the Permanent Representative of that country on 22 July 2002 (S/2002/807).

Moreover, it is unusual that Algeria, a State that claims not to be party, should express its willingness to consider what it calls "a possible partition of Western Sahara between the Sahrawi people and the Kingdom of Morocco", the clear intention being to block the ongoing process of a political solution.

It would seem that Algeria wishes to declare its position concerning a partition to which it would not apparently be a party.

Furthermore, on 18 July Algeria addressed a letter to you unilaterally advocating the right to self-determination of the Sahara whereas, on 22 July, it sent you another letter calling for the partition of the territory manifestly at variance with such self-determination.

Lastly, it is deeply shocking that a State claiming not to be a party to a dispute should ask you not to express a view on a political solution to that dispute and suggesting that you adopt "a technical resolution extending the mandate of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO), until the end of this year". By so doing, Algeria confirms its determination to do everything possible to impede a political resolution of the question of the Sahara.

The Kingdom of Morocco hopes that the Security Council will discharge its responsibilities to enable the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy to continue the work of political mediation that they began with the framework agreement on the status of Western Sahara.

I should be grateful if you would bring the content of this letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council and have it issued as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) Mohamed **Bennouna**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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